

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously presented) A portable lamp assembly, comprising:
multiple twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;
multiple switches coupled to the multiple twin tube PL fluorescent lamps, respectively, wherein the multiple switches control the multiple PL fluorescent lamps independently;
ballast circuitry configured to generate regulated power, wherein the regulated power is selectively provided to the multiple fluorescent lamps by the multiple switches wherein the ballast circuitry is a solid state ballast circuitry that includes at least one pair of oscillating transistors that are adapted to provide regulated power to start and operate the multiple twin tube PL fluorescent lamps including multiple twin tube PL lamps with integral starters;
a housing that defines a gripping surface to permit a user to hold the lamp assembly and the lamp cavity and wherein the housing further defines a space interior to the gripping surface which is sized to securely receive and retain the ballast circuitry and wherein the lamp cavity receives the plurality of multiple twin tube PL fluorescent lamps and wherein the multiple switches are interposed between the gripping surface and the lamp cavity such that the user can activate the switches while holding the gripping surface.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Currently amended) The lamp assembly of Claim 2, wherein the ballast circuitry comprises:
a full wave rectifier;
a bi-directional diode being in electrical communication with the full wave rectifier, and
a pair of transistors that alternately conduct to generate the regulated power, the transistors being in electrical communication with the full wave rectifier and the bi-directional diode.

5. (Previously presented) The lamp assembly of Claim 2, further comprising a housing with a handle, wherein the handle encloses a circuit board for mounting and interconnecting components in the ballast circuitry.

6. (Previously presented) The lamp assembly of Claim 5, wherein the multiple switches are interposed between the circuit board and the multiple fluorescent lamps.

7. (Previously present) The lamp assembly of Claim 2, further comprising a hook configured to hang the portable lamp assembly from other objects.

8. (Previously presented) The lamp assembly of Claim 2, wherein the multiple switches are two-pole electrical switches.

9. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 2, wherein the multiple twin tube PL fluorescent lamps comprise two twin tube PL fluorescent lamps and the at least one pair of oscillating transistors comprises multiple pairs of oscillating transistors for each of the two twin tube PL fluorescent lamps.

10. (**Currently amended**) A portable lamp assembly comprising:
- a pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;
 - a switch assembly coupled to the pair of twin tube PL twin tube fluorescent lamps, respectively, wherein the switch assembly controls the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps independently;
 - ballast circuitry configured to generate regulated power, wherein the regulated power is selectively provided to the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps by the switch assembly wherein the ballast circuitry is a solid state ballast circuitry that includes at least one pair of oscillating transistors that are adapted to provide regulated power to start and operate the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps including a pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps with integral starters;
 - a housing that defines a gripping surface to permit a user to hold the lamp assembly and the lamp cavity and wherein the housing further defines a space interior to the gripping surface which is sized to securely receive and retain the ballast circuitry and wherein the lamp cavity receives the plurality of pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps and wherein the switch assembly is positioned adjacent the gripping surface such that he user can activate the switch assembly while holding the gripping surface.

11. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 10, wherein the at least one pair of oscillating transistors comprises multiple pairs of oscillating transistors for each of the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps.

12. (Currently amended) The lamp assembly of claim 10, wherein the ballast circuitry comprises:

a full wave rectifier; and

a bi-directional diode in electrical communication with the full wave rectifier.

13. (Previously presented) The lamp assembly of Claim 10, wherein the switch assembly comprises multiple switches.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently amended). A portable lamp assembly comprising:

a pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;

a switch assembly coupled to the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps so as to allow the user to activate the twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;

solid state ballast circuitry that generates regulated power which is provided to the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps wherein the solid state ballast circuitry includes at least one pair of oscillating transistors that are adapted to provide regulated power to both start and operate the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps including including a pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps with integral starters;

a housing that defines a gripping surface to permit a user to hold the lamp assembly and lamp cavity that receives the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps wherein the housing defines an interior space that is sized to receive and retain the ballast circuitry and wherein the switch assembly is positioned on the housing.

16. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 15, wherein the at least one pair of oscillating transistors comprise multiple pairs of oscillating transistors for each of the pair of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps.

17. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 15, wherein the switch assembly comprises a plurality of switches.

18. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the switch assembly comprises at least one two-pole electrical switch.

19. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 15, wherein the ballast circuitry comprises a full wave rectifier and a bi-directional diode in electrical communication with each other.

20. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 15, wherein the solid state ballast circuitry is positioned on a single circuit board.

21. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 15, wherein the switch assembly is positioned adjacent the gripping surface of the housing and wherein the ballast circuitry is positioned substantially within the interior space of the housing.

22. (Previously presented) A portable lamp assembly comprising:
a plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;
a switch coupled to the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps so as to allow the user to activate the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps;
solid state ballast circuitry that generates regulated power which is provided to the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps wherein the ballast circuitry includes at least one pair of oscillating transistors that are adapted to provide regulated power to both start and operate the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps including PL fluorescent lamps with integral starters;

a housing that defines a gripping surface to permit a user to hold the lamp assembly and lamp cavity that receives the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps wherein the housing defines an interior space that is sized to receive and retain the ballast circuitry and wherein the switch is positioned on the housing.

23. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the at least one pair of oscillating transistors comprise multiple pairs of oscillating transistors for each of the plurality of twin tube PL fluorescent lamps.

24. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the switch comprises a plurality of switches.

25. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the switch comprises a two-pole electrical switch.

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26. (Currently amended) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the ballast circuitry comprises a full wave rectifier and a bi-directional diode in electrical communication with each other.

27. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the solid state ballast circuitry is positioned on a single circuit board.

28. (Previously presented) The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the switch assembly is positioned adjacent the gripping surface of the housing and wherein the ballast circuitry is positioned substantially within the interior space of the housing.